

Application Number 10/731,868
Amendment dated December 5, 2006
Responsive to Office Action mailed September 5, 2006

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
DEC 04 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method comprising:

- making an incision in a scalp of a head of a patient to create a scalp flap;
- separating the scalp flap from a skull of the patient, wherein the scalp flap is attached to the remainder of the scalp by a fold;
- after separating the scalp flap from the skull, separating a portion of the remainder of the scalp adjacent to the fold from the skull to create a pocket adjacent to the fold and between the scalp and the skull; and
- placing ~~at least~~ a substantial portion of a low-profile implantable medical device in the pocket adjacent to the fold and underneath the scalp.

Claim 2 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the low-profile implantable medical device comprises:

- a first module that includes control electronics within a first housing;
- a second module that includes a second housing; and
- a flexible overmold that at least partially covers the first and second housings.

Claim 3 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the low-profile implantable medical device has a maximum thickness of between approximately 4 millimeters and approximately 8 millimeters.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the low-profile implantable medical device has a maximum thickness of approximately 6 millimeters.

Application Number 10/731,868
Amendment dated December 5, 2006
Responsive to Office Action mailed September 5, 2006

Claim 5 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the low-profile implantable medical device has a periphery and wherein the angle between the periphery and the skull is greater than ninety degrees.

Claim 6 (Original): The method of claim 5, wherein the angle is approximately 135 degrees.

Claim 7 (Original): The method of claim 1, further comprising connecting a lead to the low-profile implantable medical device.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 6 7, further comprising:
drilling a burr hole through the skull; and
inserting a portion of the lead through the burr hole.

Claim 9 (Original): The method of claim 1, further comprising anchoring the low-profile implantable medical device to the skull.

Claim 10 (Original): The method of claim 9, wherein anchoring the low-profile implantable medical device to the skull comprises anchoring the low-profile implantable medical device to the skull with a bone screw.

Claim 11 (Original): The method of claim 1, further comprising:
covering at least a portion of the low-profile implantable medical device with the scalp flap; and
suturing the scalp flap to close the incision.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, further ~~comprising~~ comprising:
creating a recess in the skull; and
placing the low-profile implantable medical device in the recess.

Application Number 10/731,868
Amendment dated December 5, 2006
Responsive to Office Action mailed September 5, 2006

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 1, further comprising:
creating a second pocket between the scalp and the skull; and
placing at least a portion of a low-profile implantable medical device in the second pocket.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 13, wherein the low-profile implantable medical device comprises:
a first module within a first housing;
a flexible overmold that at least partially covers the first housings;
a second module that includes a second housing; and
a flexible tether member that couples the second module to the first module,
wherein placing at least a portion of a low-profile implantable medical device in the second pocket comprises placing at least a portion of the second module in the second pocket.

Claim 15 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the low-profile implantable medical device is contoured in three dimensions to substantially conform to the shape of a skull.

Claim 16 (Original): The method of claim 1, further comprising adjusting the low-profile implantable medical device to cause a contour of the low-profile implantable medical device to more closely match a contour of the skull.

Claim 17 (Original): The method of claim 1, further comprising administering a local anesthetic to the patient prior to making the incision.

Application Number 10/731,868
Amendment dated December 5, 2006
Responsive to Office Action mailed September 5, 2006

Claims 18-23 (Canceled).

Claim 24 (New): The method of claim 1, wherein the incision is made in a top of the head of the patient.

Claim 25 (New): The method of claim 1, wherein placing the substantial portion of the low-profile implantable medical device in the pocket comprises placing all of the low-profile implantable medical device in the pocket.

Claim 26 (New): A method comprising:
making an incision in a scalp of a head of a patient to create a scalp flap;
separating the scalp flap from a skull of the patient, wherein the scalp flap is attached to the remainder of the scalp by a fold;
after separating the scalp flap from the skull, separating a portion of the remainder of the scalp adjacent to the fold from the skull to create a pocket adjacent to the fold and between the scalp and the skull; and
placing all of a low-profile implantable medical device in the pocket adjacent to the fold and underneath the scalp.

Claim 27 (New): The method of claim 26, further comprising:
creating a recess in the skull; and
placing the low-profile implantable medical device within the recess.

Application Number 10/731,868
Amendment dated December 5, 2006
Responsive to Office Action mailed September 5, 2006

Claim 28 (New): A method comprising:

making an incision in a scalp at a top of a head of a patient to create a scalp flap at the top of the head of the patient;

separating the scalp flap from a skull of the patient, wherein the scalp flap is attached to the remainder of the scalp by a fold;

after separating the scalp flap from the skull, separating a portion of the remainder of the scalp adjacent to the fold from the skull to create a pocket adjacent to the fold and between the scalp and the skull; and

placing at least a portion of a low-profile implantable medical device in the pocket adjacent to the fold and underneath the scalp.

Claim 29 (New): The method of claim 28, wherein placing the portion of the low-profile implantable medical device in the pocket adjacent to the fold and underneath the scalp comprises placing all of the low-profile implantable medical device in the pocket adjacent to the fold and underneath the scalp.